

220 *THE CASTAWAYS OF
THE FLAG*

And so, after having organised their life in New Switzerland, here were the two families brought down to making another start on a tiny islet a mere annexe to their island ! How long would they be prisoners on it, and might they not fall into hostile hands if help did not reach them from outside ?

They proceeded to settle down for a stay perhaps of weeksj possibly even of months. As the store-house was large enough to accommodate fifteen people, Mme. Zermatt and Mrs. Wolston, Jenny, Susan, and her child, Hannah and Dolly were to sleep in the beds in the inner room while the men occupied the outer one.

Now, at the height of summer, the nights were warm, following the hot days. A few armfuls ^{rf} of grass dried in the sun were all that the men ¹¹ required., especially as they had to keep guard in turns, from evening until morning, upon the approaches to the island.

There was, no occasion for anxiety with regard to the food supply. Of rice, tapioca, flour, smoked meat, and dried fish, such as salmon and herring^ the stores would suffice for the daily requirements,

of six months, without taking into
account the fresh
fish that could be caught at the foot of
the rocks,
The mangroves and palms on the island
bore fruit
in any quantity. There were two kegs
of brandy/
to make an addition to the fresh and
limpid water {
of the spring*